

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please amend the Abstract as indicated below:

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A method wherein a special programming mode of a memory is entered. ~~The special programming mode disables internal~~ and internal program verification by the memory is disabled. An apparatus is also described having a host processor and a memory with special programming mode circuitry. The memory includes automation circuitry for program verification. A plurality of words is programmed into the memory without the memory performing internal program verification. The special programming mode is exited and internal program verification by the memory is enabled. The special programming mode may use hashing to optimize testing for a memory such as a nonvolatile flash memory. ~~An apparatus is also described having a host processor and a memory with special programming mode circuitry.~~